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DISPATCH NO. ETTA-1696

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TO: Chief, FDP

DATE: 18 August 1951

SUBJECT: RUMANIAN Iron Guard

Report on Iron Guard Personalities in Western and Central Europe

Attached hereto is CIG report No. S-50-17, dated 16 January 1950, on the Rumanian Iron Guard. A copy of this report has been obtained.

After evaluating the entire report, it is obvious that the information contained therein deserves higher evaluation. No data relative to sources is available. The following evaluations are assigned by the source section to information contained in the separate paragraphs of the report:

Paragraph 1, inclusive - 2
Paragraph 2, inclusive - 5
Paragraph 3, inclusive - 2
Paragraph 4, inclusive - 2

Paragraph 10 is Constantiu DRAGAN, on whom no traces are known.

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COMMUNIST INTELLIGENCE CORPS
TRIESTE UNITED STATES TROOPS
APO 209 U.S. ARMY

16 January 1950
Ref. No. S-50-17

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

(Iron Guard)
SUBJECT: The Roumanian Legion Party (The Legionnaires).

1. The following information concerning subject organization has been secured from Roumanian refugees in Trieste, Paris, FRANCE, and Salzburg, AUSTRIA. Evaluation: F-6.

2. The Legion Party is a rightist group very similar in organization and character to all the extreme-right shock organizations that have flourished in Europe between the first and second world wars. They have been a natural counter-part to the Communists whenever that party appeared to be on the verge of gaining political dominance. The Roumanian Legion can be compared to the former French "Ordre de la Jeune Garde", the early "Fascio" in ITALY, and in some respects to the Movimento Sociale Italiano or the "Falange" of SPAIN.

3. The derogatory sense usually attached to the word Legion Party or Legionnaires, is based on the undemocratic principles on which this association functions and to the criminal methods normally used to eliminate its opponents or to further its political ideology. Mystical in the concept of its role, and totalitarian in its organization and operations. Its members are bound by an unbelievably strong sense of brotherhood and have unwavering blind obedience to the will of their leaders.

4. The Legion had its origin in the "League for the Defense of the Nation and of Christianity", founded about 1920 by Dr. Alexandru C. CUZA. This was an anti-Communist and anti-Semitic association. In 1927, Corneliu Zelea CODREANU, a member of the League and son of the war hero and writer Ion Zelea CODREANU, severed his connection with the League to form a new and more militant association. The new association was called the Legion and later became known as the Iron Guard. The new Legion soon surpassed and absorbed its parent association. One of CODREANU's closest assistants was Colonel IASTASCOUSCO.

5. In 1938, the Legion or Iron Guard, was outlawed by a series of royal decrees from King CAROL II, which affected the entire country. CODREANU was arrested in 1938 and imprisoned in his prison in a mass political purge.

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5. ANASTASESCU-PANICA, who was hitherto loyal to the Government, was the one who nominated HORIA SIMA as leader of the Legion and nominated him as such on the grounds that the defunct CODREANU willed it so. A group of well-informed Roumanians maintain that ANASTASESCU-PANICA was from the very beginning an agent of Moscow and that he chose HORIA SIMA as an adaptable and unknowing tool in his hands. HORIA SIMA, therefore, became the leader of the Legion but was always manipulated and directed by ANASTASESCU-PANICA.

6. In 1941, HORIA SIMA organized a Legion revolt against the Government of ANTONESCU, but the revolt failed and HORIA SIMA and a large number of his Legionnaires escaped to GERMANY. GERMANY is suspected to have given refuge to HORIA SIMA and his assistants to keep them in reserve for the possible eventuality of a German-sponsored Government in ROUMANIA.

7. At the end of World War II, the Allied Authorities jailed many Legionnaires in GERMANY for anti-Allied activity and German collaboration, but later most of them were liberated. At the present time there are 4 distinct currents in the Roumanian Legion, but the best organized, the most numerous, and the most powerful, is that of HORIA SIMA. The 4 currents are:

The HORIA SIMA, with headquarters in Paris and Spain.

The PAPANACE group, somewhat independent, with headquarters in Rome and the Argentine.

The MANIU group (democratic and supporter of the National Farmer Party) in Paris.

The independent Legion groups in ROUMANIA and abroad.

8. Many Legionnaires have found employment with the western powers in Europe, especially with their information services. These Legionnaires are known to transmit to their affiliated Legion group the information available to them. It is for this reason that HORIA SIMA in Paris has an enviable information center at his Legion headquarters. His chief assistant, Traian BOROBARU, is said to be always visiting Legion centers throughout western Europe to keep close liaison and supervision over his Legionnaires.

9. The Legion party or association has not been allowed to have a representative on the Roumanian National Committee in Washington, D.C. All Roumanian parties are against the inclusion of the Legion because, besides its monopolistic claims on patriotism it is feared that it will claim exclusive credit for the resistance forces in ROUMANIA in the event that the country is someday liberated, and will demand an exclusive Legion Government.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Paris Branch: Leon (Bob) NEGROZZI (in contact with U.S. Embassy)
 (Ingenieur) Ion PROTOPOFESCU
 Priest Vasile BOLDEANU
 Priest Vasile POSTOLICA
 Priest Vladimir PETROVICI
 (Ingenieur) George Francois GULICA
 (Dr.) Mircea MUSATESCU (works with Deuxieme Bureau)
 Priest Radu GRATIAN
 Priest Ion LUCACI
 Priest PERDA
 Dr. Nicolae HODOS
 (Lt.) Doru IENCIU (works with Deuxieme Bureau & U.S. Embassy)

Italy Branch: Octavian ROSU
 Ion OLTEANU
 DRACAR
 Tiberiu HUMITA

Germany US Zone: (Ingenieur) Virgil VELESCU (works for Americans)
 Dumitru CRETU
 Ion TALNANU

Germany British: Alexandru TANASE (works for British)
 Ingenieur SORICIU
 MARGASIAN

Austria US Zone: Mircea DEBITRIU (with CIC in Ling and British in Graz)
 Vasile MAREAT (with Americans)
 Mihail GIORBA (with Americans)
 Samu HARIN (with Americans)
 Ion NEMLIAN (with CIC in Ling)
 Erika BARBULESCU
 Vasile GOLTA
 G. CONSTANTIN
 Spiridon NEATA
 Jordan CARAIVAN
 Ion RADULESCU
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Austria French: Eugen STOI
 Nicolae MARINESCU (with 2nd Bureau, Innsbruck)
 CHESTESCU (with 2nd Bureau, Innsbruck)
 Ion FARMULESCU (with 2nd Bureau, Innsbruck)
 Dr. Constantin MATEI

Switzerland: Mihail STURZA
 (works for Americans)

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1. THE PARACAT GROUP (called "Forn Legionar", headquarters in Rome), supported by Fascism.

Italy Branch: QUARANTARA (committee member)
SCARFACCHETTI (committee member)
VICENTINI (committee member)
GEORGE RACOVANU
(Prof. G. K. K. K.)

Vienna: G. VARDOLI
G. STON

Paris: ICIRANTIA
SCOCA

Argentina: ELI GARCIA (committee member)
ELI GARCIA (committee member)
ELI GARCIA (committee member)

London: ELI GARCIA (committee member)
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